

CCRL RESEARCH PRACTICUM Spring 2014

Lab Meeting Time: Fridays, 10:00AM

Professor: Dr. Heidi Kloos
Office: 6148 Edwards
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Description

By participating in this practicum, you have elected to become a research assistant (RA) of the Children's Cognitive Research Lab (CCRL). You will work in cooperation with about a dozen other RAs and graduate students to contribute to CCRL's mission, which is to study how children think and learn. In doing so, you are likely to gain valuable skills and insights that that may benefit you in your future career. They include:

- 1) design empirical research
- 2) learn about how a psychology research lab is operated
- 3) test children and adults in experiments

Lab Work

The work that RAs perform for CCRL may take many forms. Based on the needs of the lab, an RA may spend time testing participants in an experiment, constructing an apparatus, recruiting participants, assisting in data analyses and presentations, or any combination of these, to contribute to the smooth operation of the lab. This work will usually be assigned by Dr. Kloos, her graduate students, or other RAs. RAs may enroll or volunteer for 2-3 credit hours per semester. At the end of the semester, **RAs are expected to have performed an average of three hours of lab work per week for each credit hour that they are enrolled or have volunteered.** RAs must log and forward their hours to the lab coordinator each week to obtain credit for their hours. A grade will only be assigned after completion of hours as well as requests for reference letters will only be fulfilled after completions of hours. Given the amount of training that will be needed to participate in these activities, **RAs must commit to enrolling in this practicum for two semesters.**

Attendance

All RAs must attend weekly lab meetings at 10:00 AM, Fridays, in 6148 Edwards. Consistent attendance is a virtue and will factor significantly in grading. The majority of time spent in lab meetings will be devoted to reporting progress on assigned tasks and on delegating new tasks. Additionally, most lab meetings will include a presentation given by Dr. Kloos, a graduate student, or an RA. After presentations, you are expected to offer input such as follow-up questions, suggestions for improvement, and comments. In addition to weekly lab meetings, you will routinely meet one-on-one with a mentor in order to discuss in detail work to be done for the lab. These meetings will be scheduled at the convenience of your mentor and yourself. Time spent in weekly lab meetings

and one-on-one meetings both count towards the total hours of work that you are expected to perform during the quarter.

Presentation and Essay

For every 2 credits, you must either give a 15 minutes oral presentation during a lab meeting or submit a 1-page essay detailing what you have learned through your RA experience. The choice of whether to write an essay or give a presentation, as well as the topic of any presentation, requires the approval of Dr. Kloos. The time devoted to this task counts as lab work.

Special Requirements

In order to support the content of reference letters, RAs are required to maintain meticulous documentation of work that they do for CCRL. At the end of the semester, **RAs will be required to complete a form** stating training they received, presentations they gave, studies they worked on, significant tasks they completed, and publications they contributed to.

RAs must provide their own transportation to and from testing locations throughout the Cincinnati area as needed.

RAs must also submit the following paperwork:

- 1) State of Ohio background check (BCI&I)
- 2) Record of a physical examination (see provided form)
- 3) Immunization Records
- 4) Financial conflict of interest form
- 5) Proof of CITI training

Items 1 through 3 are required by the State of Ohio for all persons working with children in daycare centers and schools. Items 4 and 5 are required by the University of Cincinnati for all researchers and research assistants. Detailed information about how to obtain and submit this paper work can be found on the CCRL Blackboard site in the section titled “New Members”.

Grading

- 45% Attendance at lab meetings
- 45% Fulfillment of assigned lab hours and tasks
- 10% Presentation or essay

I, the undersigned, agree to abide by the terms outlined in this syllabus.

Signature

Date